

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. A surgical stapling device comprising:

a frame having first and second ends;

a body portion defining a stationary handle, the body portion being secured to the first end of the frame;

a trigger pivotably secured to the body; and

a head portion including an anvil assembly and a cartridge assembly, the anvil assembly being secured to the second end of the frame, the cartridge assembly and the anvil assembly being movable in relation to each other between spaced and approximated positions;

wherein the anvil assembly includes an anvil having a plurality of staple forming pockets and a stiffener plate, the anvil being configured to be fastened about the stiffener plate, the stiffener plate providing added strength to the anvil assembly to permit a reduction in size of the head portion.

Claims 2-28 - Canceled